IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1 through 16 (Canceled)

17. (Currently amended) A method of determining therapeutic activity and/or possible side-effects of a medicament, said method comprising:
introducing a medicament to an organism; ~~and~~
determining a relative ratio of a first nucleic acid and/or gene product thereof of an endosymbiont cellular organelle and any second nucleic acid and/or gene product thereof of said organism in a sample obtained from said organism; and
determining whether the relative ratio is indicative of a therapeutic activity or a side-effect of the medicament.

18. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 17, wherein said introducing said medicament comprises introducing said medicament for at least three months.

19. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein said medicament is used for treatment of a chronic disease.

20. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein said introducing a medicament to said organism comprises introducing said medicament to an organism free from side-effects at a first time said medicament is introduced to said organism.

21. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein said therapeutic activity comprises a therapeutic activity against an HIV-related disease and/or a tumor-related disease.

22. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 17, wherein said medicament comprises a nucleoside ~~and/~~or nucleotide analogue.

23. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 22, wherein said nucleoside and/or nucleotide analogue ~~comprises~~ is selected from the group consisting of fludarabine, mercaptopurine, tioguanine, cytarabine, flurouracil, ~~and/or~~ gemcyatbine, and mixtures thereof.

24. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 17, wherein said medicament comprises AZT, ddI, ddC, d4T, 3TC ~~and/~~or tenofofir.

25. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein said determining comprises determining said relative ratio prior to said introducing said medicament.

Claims 26 through 46 (Canceled)

47. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein said relative ratio is determined in the same assay.

48. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 47, further comprising amplifying said first nucleic acid and/or gene product thereof and said second nucleic acid and/or gene product thereof in the same assay.

49. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 47, wherein said relative ratio is determined directly by dividing an amount of said first nucleic acid and/or gene product by an amount of said second nucleic acid and/or gene product.

50. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 47, wherein said relative ratio is determined directly by dividing an amount of said second nucleic acid and/or gene product by an amount of said first nucleic acid and/or gene product.

51. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 47, wherein said relative ratio is determined by comparison with a reference curve.

52. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 47, wherein said first nucleic acid and/or gene product thereof and said second nucleic acid and/or gene product thereof are obtained from a peripheral blood mononuclear cell ~~and/~~or fibroblast.